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Unless we start today to educate against the "hidden menace" of society, venereal disease; unless we give support to the program of advanced health authorities, there is a possibility of syphilization replacing civilization.—Lee Alexander Stone, M. D., Chief, Bureau of Hospital Control, Social and Industrial Hygiene, Dept. of Health, Chicago; Surgeon Regional Consultant, U. S. Public Health Service, Chicago.

Social Service—A Profession.—Social service now has a professional organization in the American Association of Social Workers, 130 East Twenty-second street. Since the National Conference of Social Work in Milwaukee last spring the members of this association, formerly the National Social Workers Exchange, have been developing a program similar in purpose to that of the American Medical Association, the American Bar Association and the engineering societies.

Between fifteen and thirty thousand people in the United States are engaged in some kind of professional social service. They represent a wide variety of fields, for social service in the modern sense has been developing with remarkable rapidity. In a draft of membership requirements recently prepared by the new association's executive committee, nearly forty are enumerated in which men and women "trained in social science and technique are eligible for admission."

To qualify for senior membership according to the proposals of the executive committee, one would have to be at least 25 years of age, a college graduate, "or have demonstrated by his practical achievements an equivalent educational background," and have had four years' experience in social organizations of recognized standing. If he or she has had one or two years in a training school for social work, that would be equivalent to an equal amount of practical experience. Graduate work in social science is also made equal to one year of practical experience.

Provision is made for two other classes of members where the standards are less strict than for senior members. The junior membership is intended for the young man or woman with a year or more experience, who is just beginning social work. The associate membership is intended for lay people who desire to co-operate in raising standards in social work.

To become a member according to these recommendations, each social worker would have to fill out an application blank giving his education, special training and professional experience. He would also give references to three members in good standing of the association. These applications would then be passed on by a membership committee elected by the Central Council, and perhaps also by a local committee where a local council of the association was organized. If the application was favorably passed, the social worker would become a full-fledged member, receive "The Compass," and be entitled to all services.

Annual Meeting of the National Conference of Social Work.—The next annual meeting of the Conference of Social Work will be held in Providence, Rhode Island, June 22 to 29. The Program Committee of the Conference in conjunction with the program committees of the various divisions, is preparing something of exceptional interest. Following are the topics for discussion in Division II on Delinquents and Correction: